

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. In a telecommunications network, a network element comprising:  
a CORBA-based server;  
plural CORBA-based managed objects accessible by the CORBA-based server; and  
a CORBA-based applications programming interface coupled to the CORBA-based server.
- 10 2. The network element of Claim 1 wherein the CORBA-based API is coupled to an external operations support system for managing the plural CORBA-based managed objects therefrom.
- 15 3. The network element of Claim 1 further comprising a management protocol agent as a CORBA-based client of the CORBA-based server, the management protocol agent coupled to an external element management system for managing the plural CORBA-based managed objects therefrom.
4. The network element of Claim 3 wherein the management protocol agent is an SNMP agent.
- 20 5. In an ATM network having ATM endpoints connected to a central server over respective virtual circuits, a method of configuring a selected ATM endpoint for Internet Protocol (IP) over ATM communications comprising:  
transmitting an unsolicited message from the server to the selected ATM endpoint at a first transmission interval over the associated virtual circuit, the

unsolicited message including a server IP address and an ATM endpoint IP address;

receiving the unsolicited message at the selected ATM endpoint, including extracting the server IP address and the ATM endpoint IP address from the unsolicited message and transmitting an SNMP TRAP message to the server.

6. The method of Claim 5 further comprising ceasing transmission of the unsolicited message upon receiving the SNMP TRAP message at the server.

7. The method of Claim 5 wherein transmitting an SNMP TRAP message includes transmitting the SNMP TRAP message at a second transmission interval.

8. The method of Claim 5 wherein the selected ATM endpoint has multiple virtual circuits associated therewith and wherein receiving the unsolicited message comprises listening on at least one of the multiple virtual circuits for the unsolicited message and recording the virtual circuit number of the particular virtual circuit associated with the received message.